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Table Talk: Family Devotions

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003. Our Generous God

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TABLE TALK

Our Generous God

Prepare:

As one person lights a candle, the family reads together:

C: "Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful." (Psalm 116:5)

R: "What shall I render the LORD for all his benefits to me?" (Psalm 116:12)

C: "I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD." (Psalm 116:13)

R: "Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful." (Psalm 116:5)

Read: Read Matthew 20:1-16 (ESV)

20 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. 2 After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. 3 And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, 4 and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' 5 So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. 6 And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' 7 They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' 8 And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' 9 And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. 10 Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. 11 And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, 12 saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' 13 But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? 14 Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. 15 Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' 16 So the last will be first, and the first last."

Reflect:

Just as the 11th hour workers did not earn what they received, we too receive what we have not earned. God gives us his gifts not based on what we've done, but solely out of his generosity.

Take a moment to talk about what this passage (Matthew 20:1-16) means for you as a family.

In light of what you have talked about, share with one another one thing you can do differently as a member of your family based.

Pray:

The head of the household prays:

Gracious Heavenly Father, thank you for your gracious gifts in Jesus Christ. Help us to rejoice in your generous provision and live lives of generosity in Christ Jesus. Amen